

REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are pending in this application with claims 10-13 being withdrawn from consideration in view of the Restriction/Election Requirement.

In the Office Action dated March 31, 2006, an election was required to the following species identified in the Office Action:

Species I – embodiment of FIG. 11;

Species II – embodiment of FIG. 12;

Species III – embodiment of FIG. 13-14;

Species IV – embodiment of FIG. 15;

Species V – embodiment of FIG. 16;

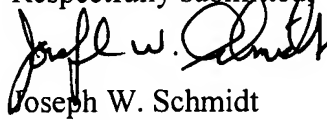
Species VI – embodiment of FIG. 17; and

Species VII – embodiment of FIG. 18.

Applicant hereby elects without traverse to pursue the claims directed to the subject matter of Species V including the embodiment of FIG. 16. The claims readable on Species V are as follows: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19. Applicant reserves the right to file divisional/continuation application(s) directed to the subject matter of the non-elected species in the event the election is upheld and/or no generic claim is held allowable. Currently, independent claims 1 and 19 are generic.

It is respectfully submitted that the claims as pending are patentably distinguishable over the art of record. Early and favorable consideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joseph W. Schmidt", written over the typed name.

Joseph W. Schmidt

Reg. No. 36,920

Attorney for Applicant(s)

Carter, DeLuca, Farrell & Schmidt, LLP

445 Broad Hollow Road

Suite 225

Melville, New York 11747

Tel.: (631) 501-5703

Fax: (631) 501-3526

JWS/td